Amendment to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the Claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) A composition comprising:

a microbiological culture media broth ~~for producing a stabilized dihydrolipoic acid compound~~, the microbiological culture media broth including:

at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism;

R-lipoic acid; and

at least one nutritive agent.

5. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 4, wherein the at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism is selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus* species, *Bifidobacterium* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Streptococcus thermophilus*, and combinations thereof.

6. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism is a *Lactobacillus* species selected from the group consisting of *L. acidiophilus*, *L. paracasei*, *L. fermentum*, *L. rhamnosus*, *L. johnsonii*, *L. plantarum*, *L. reuteri*, *L. salivarius*, *L. brevis*, *L. bulgaricus*, *L. helveticus*, *L. grasseri*, *L. casei*, *L. lactis*, and combinations thereof.

7. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism is a *Bifidobacterium* species selected from the group consisting of *B. bifidum*, *B. breve*, *B infantis*, *B. longum*, *B. lactis*, and combinations thereof.

8. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism is an *Enterococcus* species selected from the group consisting of *E. faecium*, *E. faecalis*, and combinations thereof.

9. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 5, wherein the at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism is *Streptococcus thermophilus*.

10. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 4, comprising at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus* species and at least one probiotic organism selected from the group consisting of *Bifidobacterium* species.

11. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 4, wherein the nutritive agent is turmeric rhizome (*curcuma longa*).

12. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 4, wherein the microbiological culture media broth comprises a microbiological culture media including:

about 40 composition weight percent of a paste, the paste including at least one live stabilized dihydroliopic acid-producing probiotic organism;

about 20 composition weight percent R-lipoic acid; and

about 40 composition weight percent turmeric rhizome powder.

13. (Withdrawn – currently amended) A process for preparing a stabilized dihydrolipoic acid compound comprising:

~~dispersing the microbiological culture media of claim 4 in distilled water to form a broth;~~

incubating the broth of claim 4 at a predetermined temperature for a select time period to induce probiotic activity;

adding organic ethanol to halt the probiotic activity; and

separating the stabilized dihydrolipoic acid from the broth.

14. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 13, wherein the broth is incubated at a temperature of about 35°C to about 40°C.

15. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 13, wherein the broth is incubated for a period of about 72 to about 168 hours.

16. (Withdrawn – currently amended) A process for naturally deriving a beneficial compound comprising:

preparing the microbiological culture media broth of Claim 4;

incubating the broth ~~microbiological culture~~ to initiate probiotic activity;

harvesting a waste byproduct of the probiotic activity; and

separating the beneficial compound from the waste byproduct.

17. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 16, wherein the beneficial compound is stabilized dihydrolipoic acid.

18. (Withdrawn – currently amended) The process of claim 16, wherein the at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism is selected from the group consisting of Lactobacillus species, Bifidobacterium species, Enterococcus species, *Streptococcus thermophilus*, and combinations thereof.

19. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 16, wherein the nutritive agent is turmeric rhizome (*curcuma longa*).

20. (Currently amended) The microbiological culture media broth of Claim 4 wherein the at least one stabilized dihyrdolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism ~~is capable of producing~~ produces a stabilized dihydrolipoic acid compound for use in a medicament or a nutritional supplement.

21. (Currently amended) A composition comprising:

a microbiological culture media broth ~~for producing a stabilized dihydrolipoic acid compound~~ including:

Bifobacterium longum;
Lactobacillus acidophilus;
Enterococcus faecium;
Streptococcus thermophilus;
R-lipoic acid; and
at least one nutritive agent.

22. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim 22, wherein the microbiological culture media broth further comprises *B. breve*, *B. infantis*, *L. bulgaricus*, *L. casei*, *L. fermentum*, *L. helveticus* and *L. plantarum*.

23. (Canceled)

24. (New) A broth, comprising:

at least one live stabilized dihydrolipoic acid-producing probiotic organism selected from the group consisting of *Lactobacillus* species, *Bifidobacterium* species, *Enterococcus* species, *Streptococcus thermophilus*, and combinations thereof;

R-lipoic acid;

tumeric rhizome (*curcuma longa*); and

a stabilized dihydrolipoic acid compound produced by conversion of R-lipoic acid by the at least one probiotic organism during incubation.